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SPORTS

Winchester High Nordic girls skiers successfully defend Mass. Bay West title, boys finish fifth

JOE MCCONNELL | SPORTS EDITOR

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The five Winchester High Nordic ski team captains are front and center on the Leo G. Martin Golf Course bridge in Weston after completing their last regular season meet on Feb. 4, with their teammates joining them in back. Sitting are the boys captains, Jonathan Gilmer and Quinn Shanley, and standing are, senior captain Alanna Lee, junior captain Piper Oswald, senior Abigail Bastien and senior captain Lila Beauchamp. COURTESY PHOTO/CATHERINE CURTIS

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The Winchester High Nordic (cross-country) ski team came into existence only 15 years ago in 2010. Scott Carlson, a western Pennsylvania native, started the program, and remains in charge to this day.

His boys team won the Mass. Bay West League championship in 2020, while the girls just wrapped up their third title in the last four years on Feb. 4 at Weston's Leo G. Martin Golf Course, a venue that varies in distance, depending on the season's snowfall.

But after this winter's storms, much to the delight of snow lovers, the league was able to expand the terrain for the racers to seven kilometers, approximately five miles.

The Winchester High Nordic ski team is, from left, back row, Caroline Berling, Claire Lin, Avery Jiang, Sophia Liu, Lila Roeder, Lucy Kenna, Heidi Ernst, Caroline Lanz, Amelia Osborne, Linnea Tonry, Scarlett Copeland, Avery Bastien, Helen McArdle, Jack Eichelberger and Kuan Fu. Front row, Lila Daly, Sophia Camera-Murray, Grace Siciliano, Rosie Smith, Summer Baker, Piper Oswald, Lila Beauchamp, Abigail Bastien, Alanna Lee, Quinn Shanley, Jonathan Gilmer and Cecilia Torres. Missing from photo, Fiona He. COURTESY PHOTO/CATHERINE CURTIS

"I only had three boys on my first roster in 2010," said Carlson, who teaches physics at the high school. "But over the years, we had as many as 65 tryout one winter that resulted in me cutting it back to 58. The roster that year included athletes with a wide range of abilities from novices to veterans of the sport."

In the here and now, the program consists of four boys and 24 gi
despite the fact that the top five finishers count in the scoring on

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team, the boys still ended up fifth in the seven-team league that also includes Acton-Boxborough, Concord-Carlisle, Lincoln-Sudbury, Wayland, Minuteman and Westford Academy.

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The girls, on the other hand, had three skiers in the league's Top 10, while winning four races this year, coming in second just once, which occurred in the opening meet of the regular season. All of that winning secured them another banner.

Seniors Lila Beauchamp and Alanna Lee, and junior Piper Oswald are this year's girls captains, while seniors Jonno Gilmer and Quinn Shanley are the boys leaders.

In the final league meet of the season again on Feb. 4 in Weston, the girls won the West again, which was their second straight title, and third in four years. Oswald, Caroline Lanz and Abigail Bastien finished fourth through sixth in that order, followed by Avery Bastien (12th) and Scarlett Copeland (16th) to round out the Top 5.

Gilmer was the first Winchester boys skier to cross the finish line in seventh place. Shanley was 23rd. Kuan Fu (27th) and Jack Eichelberger (40th) completed the race to account for the team's fifth-place finish.

There's just one meet left on the schedule this season, and that's the state championships on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at Mt. Prospect in Woodford, Vermont. It's scheduled for an out-of-state site, because the Vermont facility has more natural snow on the ground, plus it's also capable of making snow.

Joe McConnell is a longtime, award-winning sports editor for numero Shore publications. He began covering Winchester sports for the News

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November 2024 and is currently its Sports Editor. He can be reached at editor@winchesternews.org.

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SPORTS

Winchester boys basketball heads to Bridgewater-Raynham for Sweet 16 game after beating Lexington in postseason opener

It was the third meeting this year between Middlesex League boys basketball rivals Lexington (16-5, 11th seed) and Winchester (17-4, 22nd seed). They split the first two during the regular season, thus making this Round of 32 postseason matchup the impromptu rubber game of this year's series, with the

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SPORTS

Winchester wrestling enjoys Top 10 finish at state divisional meet; senior captains move on to All-States

After the Winchester High qualified wrestlers competed hard over two days last weekend (Feb. 20, 21) in the State Division 1 Meet at North Andover High School, Mother Nature gave them a break to rest and recuperate with Monday's blizzard that resulted in two days off fro

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February 28, 2026

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SPORTS

Winchester boys hockey advances to the Sweet 16 after beating Wachusett in the tournament opener

The Winchester High boys hockey team (12-9-2), the 17th seed, edged the 16th-seeded Wachusett Regional Mountaineers (18-2-1), 5-4 in a Round of 32 Division 1 state tournament game at Westborough's Northstar Ice Arena on Feb. 25. The Red & Black will now take on top seed Catholic Memorial (18-2-1)

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SPORTS

With postseason starting Friday night, WHS boys hoop seniors English, Sarpong, Burbine join Middlesex League elite

The Winchester High boys basketball team, the 22nd seed, will take on Middlesex League rival Lexington, the 11th seed, to begin the Division 1 state tournament in the Round of 32 on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. These teams are so evenly matched, beginning with the

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February 26, 2026

Latest

FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
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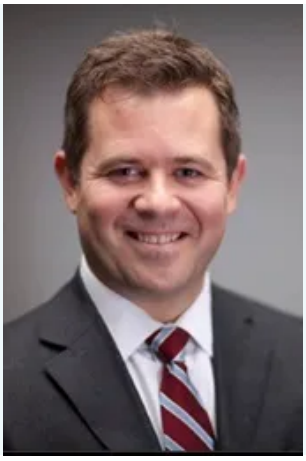
EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026



NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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